

**Amendments to the Specification:**

**Title of the Invention**

Please amend the title to read **OPTICAL IMAGING SYSTEM WITH ROD LENS ARRAY**.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 6, with the following amended paragraph:

In this embodiment, the refractive index distribution of the rod lenses 1 is expressed by Equation [[29]]13. However, it is not limited to such a distribution. For example, assuming that the secondary refractive index distribution coefficient  $g$ , which represents the refractive power near the optical axis, remains the same, the refractive index distribution of the rod lenses 1 can be expressed generally by

$$Eq. 43 \quad n(r)^2 = n_0^2 \cdot \{1 - (g \cdot r)^2 + f(r)\}$$